



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/595,499

04/24/2006

Juha Raatikainen

AWEK 3462

1600

7812 7590 09/06/2007
SMITH-HILL AND BEDELL, P.C.
16100 NW CORNELL ROAD, SUITE 220
BEAVERTON, OR 97006

EXAMINER

MERLINO, ALYSON MARIE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3676

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/06/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/595,499

Applicant(s)

RAATIKAINEN ET AL.

Examiner

Alyson M. Merlino

Art Unit

3676

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 13-19 and 22-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 20,21,29 and 30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 13 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 14-19 and 23-28 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. The examiner acknowledges applicant's cancellation of claims 1-12 and the inclusion of new claims 13-30 filed on 18 June 2007.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election with traverse of Invention I in the a telephone conversation on 6 February 2007 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the inventions shown in the figures are connected in design, operation, and have common features, discussed in applicant's remarks filed on 18 June 2007. This is not found persuasive because the non-elected Invention II includes the special technical feature being the distinction between the two inventions. The special technical feature is that the first and second torsion units of Invention II are formed with first and second openings, respectively, for alignment with the threaded opening of the follower. Since applicant cancelled claims 1-12, claims 20, 21, 29, and 30 of the newly submitted claims are drawn to the non-elected Invention II (Figures 7-10) ^{and b} are withdrawn from _^ consideration.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. **Claim 13 is rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, lines 26-29 of the claim, it is unclear what side of

Art Unit: 3676

the lock the "means for selectively controlling the coupling member" engages because of the phrase "said other side." For examination purposes, it will be considered that the means for selectively controlling the coupling member is on at least one side of the lock until further clarification from applicant.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

6. **Claims 13 and 22 are rejected** under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hinz (EP 0 537 531 A1).

7. **In regards to claims 13 and 22 (as best understood)**, Hinz discloses a door lock (Figure 1) having first 1" and second 1' opposite sides including a bolt 3, a follower 8 for moving the bolt (Figure 1) with the follower having first and second opposite ends (as shown in the figure below) presented towards the first and second sides respectively of the lock (Figure 2) and being formed with a threaded opening (as shown in figure below, and lines 116-118 of the computer generated translation) that is accessible from each end of the follower (Figure 2). Hinz further discloses first 16" and second 16' torsion units at the first and second sides respectively (Figure 6) of the lock and turnably mounted in the first and second ends respectively of the follower (Figure 6), and first 23a and second 23b movable coupling members at the first and second sides respectively of the lock (Figure 2), which are selectively controllable to couple force

8. Hinz also discloses a selecting member 20 that can be installed in the lock on one of the first and second sides of the lock by engaging the threaded opening of the follower from the first or second end of the follower (Lines 93-113 of the computer generated translation), such that when the selecting member is installed on the first side the selecting member retains the first torsion unit against turning relative to the follower and permits the second torsion unit to turn relative to the follower (Lines 89-113 of the

Art Unit: 3676

computer generated translation), and when the selecting member is installed on the second side the selecting member retains the second torsion unit against turning relative to the follower (apparent from Figures 1 and 2). Hinz discloses a means for selectively controlling the coupling member 13, 9 that selectively connects force transmission from the torsion unit to at least one side of the lock (Lines 71-76 and Lines 102-113).

Allowable Subject Matter

9. **Claims 14-19 and 23-28 are objected to** as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to the rejection of claims 7-11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Errani in view of Raatikainen have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection and the inclusion of new claims 13-30.

11. The examiner acknowledges applicant's amendment to the specification removing references to the claims as set forth in the previous office action.

Conclusion

12. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Art Unit: 3676

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alyson M. Merlino whose telephone number is (571) 272-2219. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jennifer Gay can be reached on (571) 272-7029. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3676

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AM ~~AM~~
August 29, 2007


JENNIFER H. GAY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER